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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 UPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12
AID-20 INRE-00 RSR-01 /106 W
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P R 040941Z OCT 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

0697 DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 1/26/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

SUBJ: PRESIDENT THIEU EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH ELECTION RESULTS

1. THE PRESIDENTIAL PRESS OFFICE OCTOBER 4 ISSUED A STATEMENT ON THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN WHICH PRESIDENT THIEU NOTED THE HIGHT VOTER TURNOUT AND THE FAILURE OF COMMUNIST EFFORTS TO SABOTAGE THE ELECTION AND CONCLUDED THE ELECTION WAS A VERY GOOD ACHIEVEMENT IN BUILDING DEMOCRACY. FOLLOWING IS OFFICIAL ENGLISH VERSION OF RELEASE.

2. BEGIN TEXT: THE PRESS SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT [redacted] ANNOUNCES:

3. FOLLOWING ARE THE FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN THIEU ON THE OCTOBER 3 ELECTION:

(1) 4. ACCORDING TO THE PRELIMINARY REPORTS FROM THE PROVINCES, ON OCTOBER 3 THERE WERE MORE THAN 6,300,000 VOTERS WHO

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PARTICIPATED IN THE ELECTION, COMPARED WITH THE NATIONWIDE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS OF 7,192,660.

5. THUS THERE WAS MORE THAN 87 PERCENT OF THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS GOING TO VOTE.

6. THIS IS THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE EVER IN ANY ELECTION SINCE 1967.

7. IN THE 1967 PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION THE TURNOUT WAS ONLY 83.7 PERCENT AND IN THE LAST LOWER HOUSE ELECTION THE TURNOUT WAS 78.7 PERCENT. IN ADDITION, IN THIS OCTOBER 3 ELECTION THERE WAS MORE THAN HALF OF THE PROVINCES AND MUNICIPALITIES WITH A TURNOUT OF MORE THAN 90 PERCENT.

8. IN THE SAIGON-GIA DINH AREA, IN THE LOWER HOUSE ELECTION, THE TURNOUT WAS ONLY FROM 59 TO 69 PERCENT, WHEREAS IN THE OCTOBER 3 ELECTION, IN THE SAME PLACES, THE TURNOUT WAS FROM 76.5 PERCENT TO OVER 81 PERCENT.

9. THEREFORE IT IS CLEAR THAT ALL OUR PEOPLE CONCEIVE THAT THE LAST PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION HAD A DECISIVE SIGNIFICANCE, AND THEY POSITIVELY PARTICIPATED IN GREAT NUMBER.

10. ALL OF OUR PEOPLE HAVE SHOWN THEIR DETERMINATION TO SERIOUSLY OBSERVE AND IMPLEMENT THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS. AT THE SAME TIME THEY ARE DETERMINED TO FULFILL CORRECTLY THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS IN A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC NATION.

11. OUR PEOPLE HAVE ALSO DEFIED ALL TERRORISM AND THREATS OF THE COMMUNISTS, EVEN IN THOSE PLACES WHERE, IN THE EARLY MORNING OF OCTOBER 3, THE TERRORISTS HAD TRIED TO SHELL MORTARS AND TO SABOTAGE.

12. THE COMMUNISTS HAD FAILED COMPLETELY IN THEIR PLANS TO DESTROY THE ELECTION, PLANS WHICH THEY HAD PREPARED FOR OVER ONE YEAR.

13. THE PRESIDENT CONCLUDES THAT:

14. THIS IS REALLY A VERY GOOD ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR NATION AND OUR PEOPLE IN THE BUILDING AND IMPLEMENTING OF DEMOCRACY. NOBODY CAN DENY THIS AND THE COMMUNISTS AND THEIR LACKEYS CAN NO LONGER DISTORT. I CANNOT SAY ANYTHING BUT PRAISE THE HIGH POLITICAL CONCIOUSNESS AND THE DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE NATION.

15. FINALLY I SINCERELY THANK ALL PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE, WHO HAVE ENTHUSIASTICALLY RESPONDED TO MY APPEAL TO GO TO VOTE IN GREAT NUMBER.

16. I WARMLY CONGRATULATE ALL THE COMBATANTS AND CADRES OF ALL RANKS AND IN EVERY FIELD THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, WHO HAD EFFECTIVELY PROVIDED SECURITY TO THE PEOPLE ON THE ELECTION DAY. END TEXT.
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